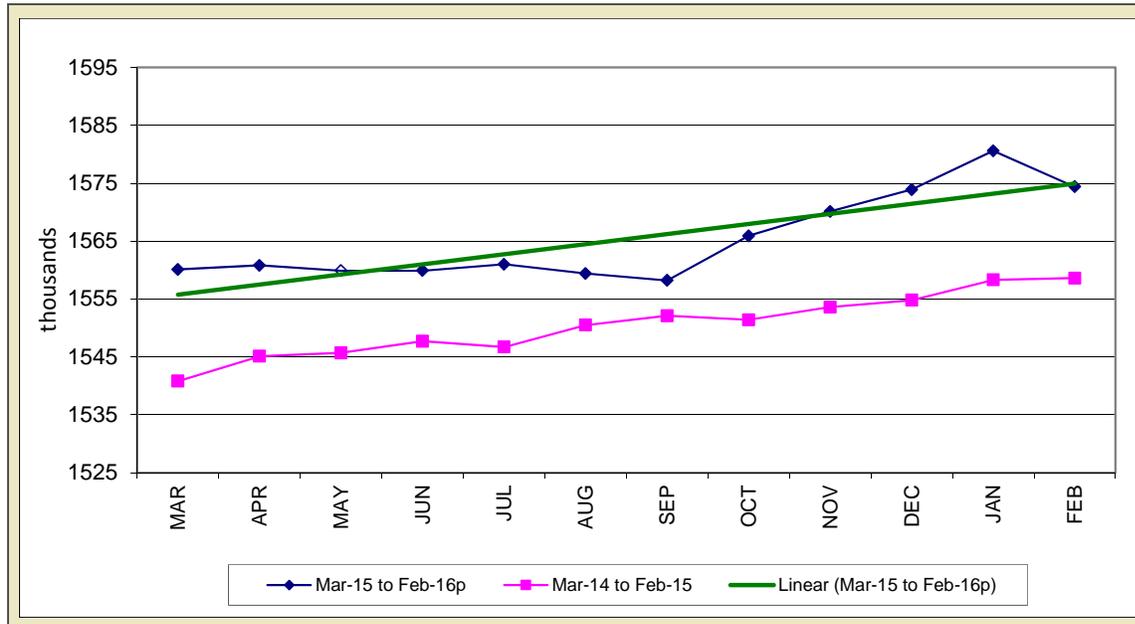


# STATE OF IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

FEBRUARY 2016  
LMR MONTHLY

**NONFARM EMPLOYMENT LEVEL ENDS YEAR WITH SMALL GAIN**



Iowa businesses shed 6,200 jobs in February, lowering total nonfarm employment down to 1,574,400 jobs (-0.4 percent). This month's decline is the first loss since September and follows an unusually high gain to start the year. Virtually all segments of the Iowa economy scaled back this month, with private sectors losing 5,000 jobs. Government was down 1,200 jobs due to a decline in local government. Government remains little changed versus last year (-100).

Private sector losses were largest in leisure and hospitality this month (-3,100). Accommodations and food services experienced most of the decline. Although the loss was large, it is the first since July for this super sector. Professional and business services trended down for the fourth consecutive month, fueled by losses in administrative and support services. Other losses this month included trade and transportation, information,

manufacturing and other services. Conversely, education and health services added jobs this month (+2,200) and has been steadily climbing due to unyielding demand for health care services. The only other major sector to add employment this month was financial activities, up 500 jobs in February. Iowa's finance industry has steadily advanced over the past several months with jobs last being pared in November 2014.

Despite the monthly decline, Iowa remains up 15,800 jobs compared to last February. Education and health services is now the leader in jobs added (+6,100) due entirely to hiring in health care fields. Construction changed little this month, but remains up 4,300 versus one year ago. Manufacturing continues to navigate the storm and remains down (-3,100). Other losses include professional and business services (-1,800) and information services (-1,600).

Nationally, total nonfarm employment added 242,000 jobs in February. The monthly gain was slightly higher than the average over the past twelve months (+225,000) and equates to 2.7 million jobs added since last February. The largest gains were in retail trade and health care and social assistance. Losses were sparse and primarily within mining and manufacturing.

*For additional information, contact James Morris (515-281-8515)*

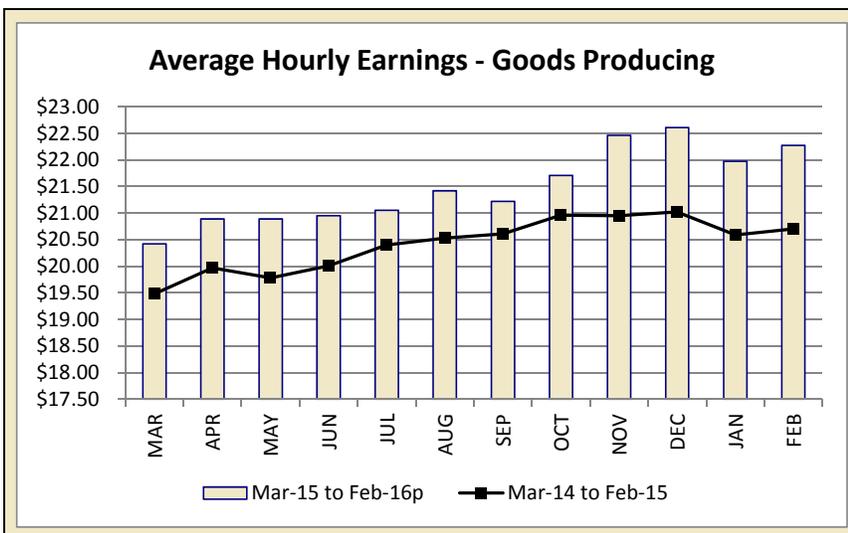
For additional information, contact James Morris (515-281-8515)

**METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA  
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED NONFARM EMPLOYMENT (TOTAL NONFARM)**

MSA	Feb-15	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Aug-15	Sep-15	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16p
AMES	52.6	52.5	52.7	52.7	52.1	52.1	52.6	52.8	52.8	52.8	52.8	53.1	53.2
CEDAR RAPIDS	143.5	143.4	142.8	143.1	143.2	143.5	144.0	143.1	142.7	143.0	143.1	144.9	144.2
DES MOINES/W. DES MOINES	347.0	347.5	347.2	348.5	349.3	350.6	350.1	349.2	349.2	349.8	350.0	352.0	349.5
DUBUQUE	59.3	59.8	59.7	59.8	59.5	59.8	59.8	60.1	60.2	60.1	60.3	60.5	60.4
IOWA CITY	98.4	98.5	98.6	98.2	98.4	98.6	98.6	98.4	98.9	98.9	99.2	99.1	99.6
SIoux CITY *													
WATERLOO/CEDAR FALLS	91.8	91.8	91.3	91.1	91.1	91.1	91.1	90.7	90.5	90.6	90.7	91.4	90.7

\* Seasonally adjusted data for the Sioux City MSA is not available due to redefinition of the metropolitan area to now include Plymouth County

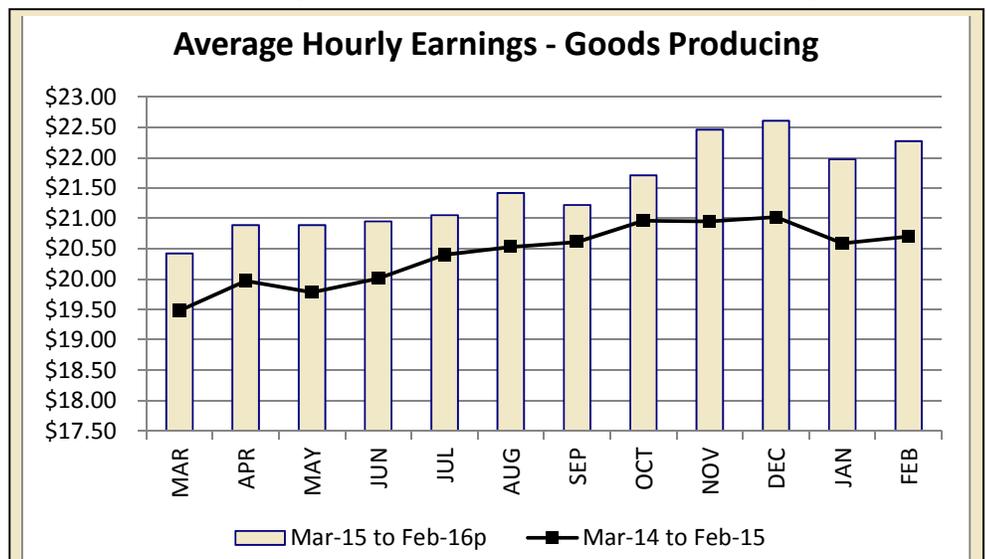
**IOWA'S HOURS & EARNINGS**



Goods-producing Hours & Earnings	
Average Weekly Earnings	\$921.98
Average Hourly Earnings	\$22.27
Average Weekly Hours	41.4

Production workers in Iowa's goods-producing sectors averaged \$921.98 in February, up \$77.42 versus one year ago. The gain annually was primarily the result of increased overtime hours for construction workers. Hourly and non-supervisory workers in manufacturing have seen a slight decrease in weekly earnings (-\$37.04) due to cutbacks within durable goods factories. In total, manufacturing production workers averaged \$769.54 a week in February.

In retail, production workers averaged \$355.32 in February, up \$19.70 versus one year ago. Finance workers experienced a gain of \$1.39 in average hourly earnings since last year and averaged \$907.49 a week in February.



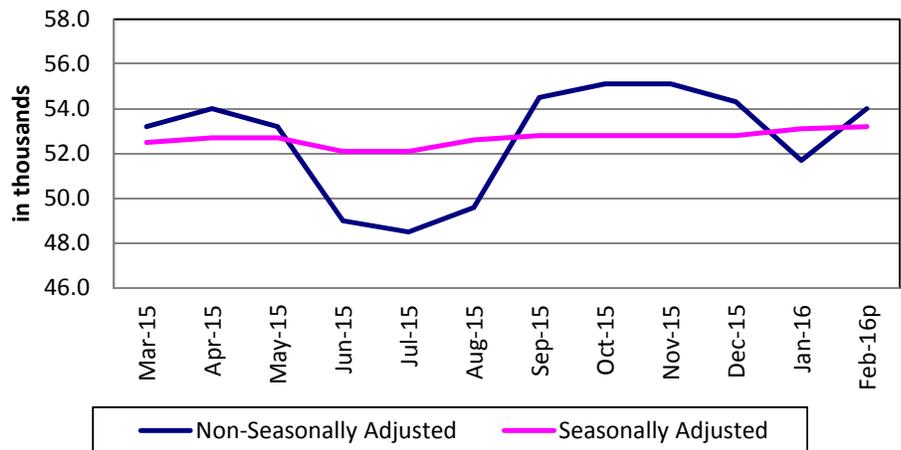
METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Ames MSA Employment	
Total Nonfarm 15 <sup>p</sup>	54,000
Total Nonfarm 14	53,400
% Change 1 Yr	1.12%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries (1 yr)	
Pvt Service Provide	3.36%
Goods Producing	-7.25%

*p - preliminary data*

Ames - Nonfarm Employment



The Ames Metro area gained 2,300 jobs in February and now rests at 54,000 jobs. The monthly increase is both seasonal and average compared to the prior three years. It was also expectedly fueled by state government education (+1,700), although private services also gained 500 jobs this month. Goods producing industries were unchanged.

Annually, Ames is up 600 jobs with private services leading the way (+800). Government is up 300 jobs due to expansion in state government education. Goods producing sectors lag behind last year's level by 500 jobs.

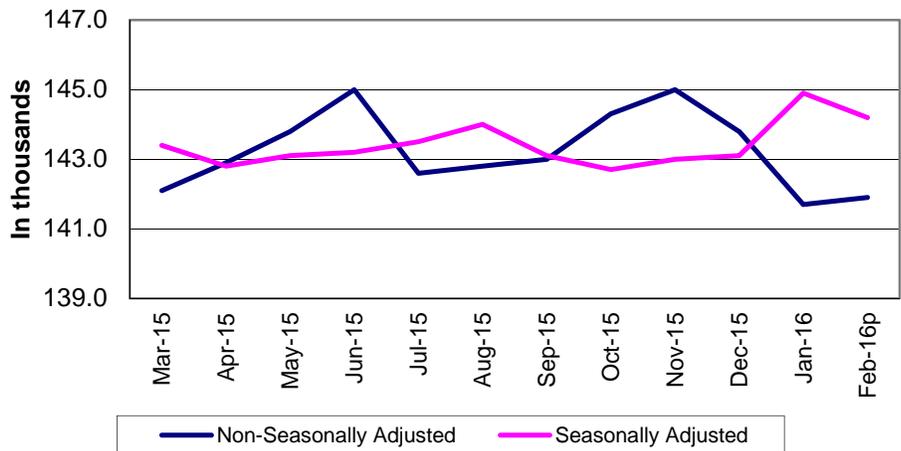
For additional information, contact James Morris (515-281-8515)

[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Cedar Rapids MSA Employment	
Total Nonfarm 15 <sup>p</sup>	141,900
Total Nonfarm 14	141,300
% Change 1 Yr	0.42%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries (1 yr)	
Other Services	3.85%
Information	-8.70%

*p - preliminary data*

Cedar Rapids - Nonfarm Employment



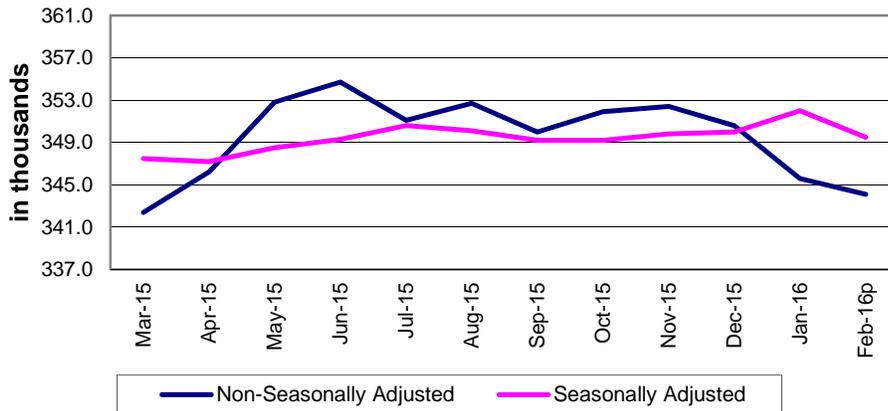
The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area added 200 nonfarm jobs from January, bringing employment to 141,900. Total nonfarm employment in the metro area is 600 above one year ago.

Educational and health services experienced a seasonal gain of 400, signaling the end of the holiday break. Smaller gains (100 each) were seen in government, leisure and hospitality, professional and business services and manufacturing, which saw an increase in non-durable goods and a small decline in durable goods manufacturing. Trade, transportation and warehousing shed 400 jobs, all in retail trade. Information pared 100 jobs

Over the year, government and professional and business services are each down 100 jobs and information has shed 400 jobs. Educational and health services, trade, transportation and warehousing and manufacturing have each added 300 jobs from one year ago.

For additional information, contact Dennis Schwartz (515-281-5754)

**Des Moines/West Des Moines -  
Nonfarm Employment**



[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Des Moines MSA Employment	
Total Nonfarm 15p	344,100
Total Nonfarm 14	341,000
% Change 1 Yr	0.91%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries (1 yr)	
Financial Activities	4.71%
State Government	-7.50%

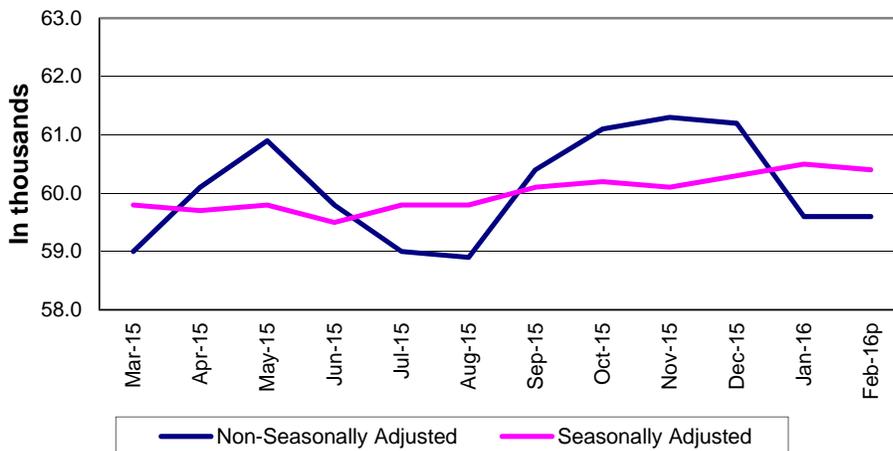
p - preliminary data

In February, total nonfarm employment decreased by 1,900 jobs (-0.7 percent). This month's gain is atypical for this time of year and possibly due to some shifting of seasonality. Jobs have been lost in three consecutive months in the Des Moines area, although the metro maintains an increase of 3,100 jobs versus last February.

The largest declines this month were in trade and transportation (-900), with seasonal losses in retail (-600). Some of this month's decline was due to seasonal, holiday staff being employed longer this year. Trade and transportation has fared well of late, adding 1,000 jobs over the past twelve months. Professional and business services pared jobs (-600) due to losses in both administrative support and waste management (-400) and professional, scientific, and technical services (-200). This month's decline could signal that businesses are being more judicious in their staffing lately. Annually, professional and business services remain up 800 jobs. While financial activities decreased slightly in February (-200), the sector has added the most jobs in the Des Moines area annually (+2,500). Other movements this month included seasonal increases in both education and health services (+700) and government (+400). Both sector gains were the result of seasonal education increases.

For additional information, contact James Morris (515-281-8515)

**Dubuque - Nonfarm Employment**



[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Dubuque MSA Employment	
Total Nonfarm 15p	59,600
Total Nonfarm 14	58,200
% Change 1 Yr	0.00%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries (1 yr)	
Pvt Service Provide	3.31%
Government	0.00%

p - preliminary data

The Dubuque Metro remained at 59,600 jobs in February. Slight gains of 100 in private services exactly offset seasonal losses in goods producing sectors. February has been prone to shifting seasonal patterns, with both two losses and two gains in each of the past four years, so this month's report isn't too surprising.

Annually, private services alone were responsible for metro area's gain of 1,400 jobs (+2.4 percent). Trade and transportation added 300 jobs and was partially fueled by expansion in retail trade.

For additional information, contact James Morris (515-281-8515)

METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Iowa City MSA Employment	
Total Nonfarm 15 <sup>p</sup>	99,100
Total Nonfarm 14	97,500
% Change 1 Yr	1.64%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries	
Retail Trade	5.05%
Prof & Business	-2.90%

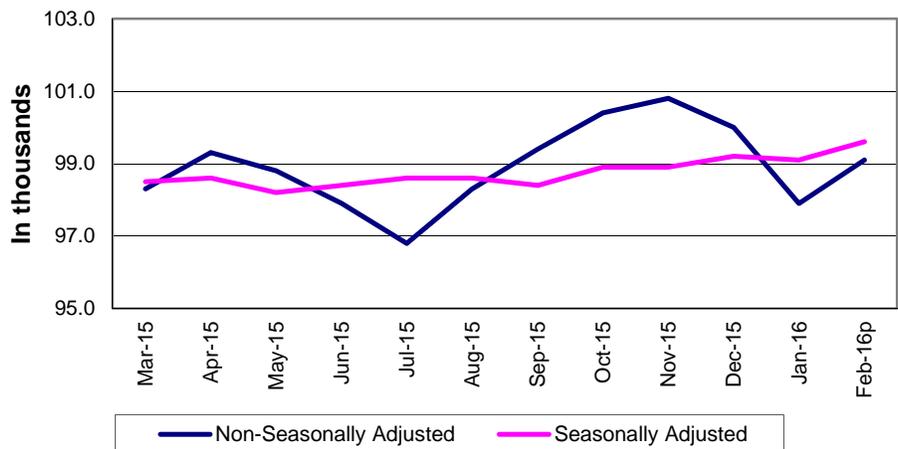
*p - preliminary data*

Nonfarm employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area is up 1,200 jobs from last month largely due to seasonal gains following the holiday break, with government adding 600 jobs. Trade, transportation and warehousing and leisure and hospitality each added 100 jobs. Professional and business services was unchanged.

Fueled by both government (+800) and private service-providing industries (+600), total nonfarm employment has gained 1,600 jobs from one year ago. Professional and business services has pared 200 jobs and leisure and hospitality and goods-producing industries have shed 100 jobs each.

*For additional information, contact Dennis Schwartz (515-281-5754)*

Iowa City - Nonfarm Employment



[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Sioux City MSA Employment	
Total Nonfarm 15 <sup>p</sup>	86,900
Total Nonfarm 14	86,100
% Change 1 Yr	0.93%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries	
Retail Trade	3.85%
Manufacturing	-1.95%

*p - preliminary data*

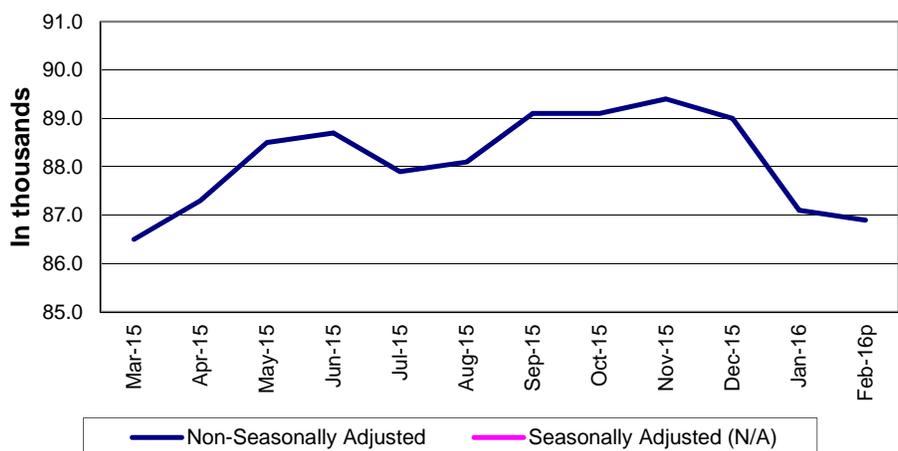
*The Sioux City MSA has been redefined. It now includes: Dixon and Dakota Counties in Nebraska, Union County in South Dakota, and Woodbury and Plymouth Counties in Iowa.*

Employment in the Sioux City MSA shed 200 jobs from January. A loss of 500 jobs in trade, transportation and warehousing was largely offset by small gains in government and other service-providing sectors. Goods-producing industries have pared 200 jobs.

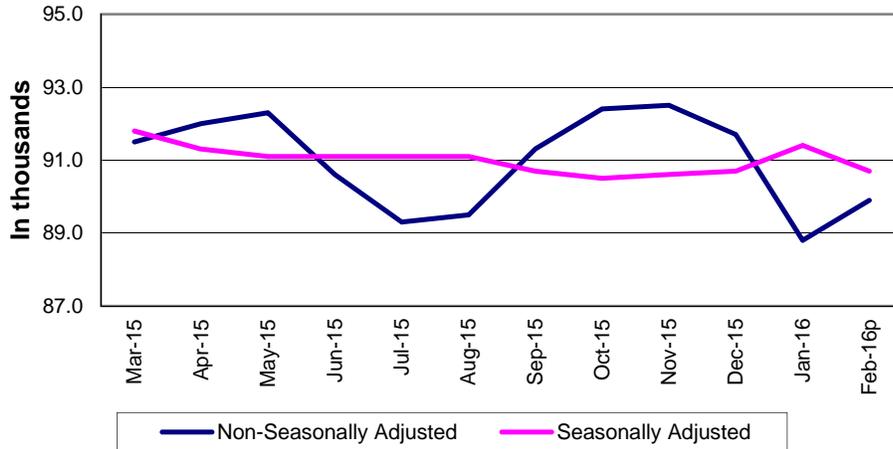
Overall, the area has added 800 jobs from one year ago. Trade, transportation and warehousing added 500 jobs, 400 of which were in retail trade. Goods producing sectors have added 600 jobs, although manufacturing remains 300 below the February 2015 level. Government employment is 100 below one year ago.

*For additional information, contact Dennis Schwartz (515-281-5754)*

Sioux City - Nonfarm Employment



**Waterloo/Cedar Falls - Nonfarm Employment**



[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

<b>Waterloo/Cedar Falls MSA Employment</b>	
Total Nonfarm 15p	89,900
Total Nonfarm 14	91,100
% Change 1 Yr	-1.32%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries	
Health Care & Soc	0.00%
Manufacturing	-3.64%

*p - preliminary data*

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area's total nonfarm employment added 1,100 jobs from the previous month and stands at 89,900. Job gains were seasonal in nature and almost entirely in government, with the only exceptions being gains of 100 in educational and health services and leisure and hospitality. Trade, transportation and warehousing shed 400 jobs and goods-producing, financial activities and professional and business services each pared 100 jobs.

Over the year, employment is down 1,200 jobs, with manufacturing experiencing the greatest loss, shedding 600 jobs. The only industry with a gain in employment from one year ago is trade, transportation and warehousing which added 100 jobs.

*For additional information, contact Dennis Schwartz (515-281-5754)*

**LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Click on a link below to visit web page

**Worker Adjustment & Retraining Notification Act (WARN)**

**U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics**

**Unemployment Insurance Benefit Payments**

**Consumer Price Index (CPI)**

**Unemployment Insurance Benefit Paid by County**

**Employment Statistics for Canada**

**Current Employment Statistics**

Each month the **Current Employment Statistics** program surveys about 143,000 businesses and government agencies, representing approximately 588,000 individual worksites, in order to provide detailed industry data on employment, hours, and earnings of workers on nonfarm payrolls for all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and about 450 metropolitan areas and divisions.

**Contact Information**

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